From:	Dean Crockett
To:	Judge.Emmett@cjo.hctx.net
Cc:	ushah@hcphes.org; Debboun, Mustapha (PHES); COH - Mayor; cjcagle@hcp4.net; ccc@hcp4.net; Leanna.Abbott@cjo.hctx.net; Peggy.Boice@cjo.hctx.net; Old6WardHouston@yahoogroups.com; mark.sloan@oem.hctx.net; ushah@hcphes.org
Subject:	Aerial spraying - thank you
Date:	Monday, September 18, 2017 7:14:21 AM

Dear Judge Emmett,

I live in Kingwood, an area that was part of the aerial spraying last week, and I would like to thank the Harris County Public Health (HCPH) department for taking that important action. I have heard some of my neighbors complain about the aerial spraying program, but I am actually in the vector-borne disease control industry and I have tried to educate those in my community about the threat of serious mosquito-borne diseases blooming after an enormous natural disaster and weather event such as Hurricane Harvey. The best way to deal with the spread of mosquito-borne diseases is to prevent them from happening in the first place.

I am a member of the *Caribbean Emergency Vector Control Working Group*, a gathering of industry experts and public health officials from the Caribbean who are facing a post-hurricane mosquito-borne health crisis unlike any in living memory. The pest-control infrastructure that's been in place for decades and that wiped out Malaria in the region has been devastated. We reached out to HCPH, and specifically to Dr. Mustapha Debboun, a world-class leader in mosquito and vector-borne disease control who is leading a premier regional center of excellence in vector-borne disease management, and Dr. Debboun has graciously shared with the working group his extensive experience in managing this critical mosquito-control program in Harris County after the flooding of Hurricane Harvey. The efficacy and safety of aerial spraying was discussed in our working group, and the consensus of this community of public health and subject matter experts was that this is an important tool in "bending down the curve" of future mosquito-borne diseases in a post-disaster environment.

I know that some of my neighbors have written to whomever they could find an email address for to express their concern about aerial spraying, but I have talked at length with many of them and know their concerns to be based out of fear of the unknown. The HCPH has a world-class mosquito and vector control leader in Dr. Debboun who I have total confidence in and know will do whatever is right and necessary to protect our communities from mosquito-borne diseases.

With sincere regards,
Dean Crockett
Kingwood, Harris County, Texas